in a traffic-worthy condition within available funds.

(b) to (d) A length of approximately 50 kms. between Raipur and Boriguma near Nabarangpur is still single-lane. However, there is no provision in the Eighth Five Year Plan for widening this section due to constraint of funds. Realignment of National Highway near Salur town is provided for in the Eighth Five Year Plan and the need for raising, if any, will be known after survey and investigation is carried out.

Spurt in ISI activities along the Rajasthan and Gujarat sectors

*59. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that ISI have stepped up its activities including smuggling of contraband items along the Rajasthan and Gujarat sectors and have taken steps to spread discord among the population living in the border areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Bangladeshis, Pakistanis and others arrested in 1994 and so far in 1995 along Rajasthan/ Gujarat sector;

(d) the quantity of narcotics, arms and ammunition, gold and contraband items seized alongwith the value thereof during the past three years along Rajasthan/Gujarat sectors; and

(e) what steps have been taken to monitor and control the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) After completion of entire work of border fencing/flood lighting in Punjab and in Ganganagar and Bikaner sectors in Rajasthan, there has been a spurt in ISI activities in the remaining areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat, which include smuggling of arms and ammunition, narcotics and contraband items as also infiltration of terrorists.

(c) Details of Bangladeshis, Pakistanis and others apprehended on International borders of Rajasthan and Gujarat during 1994 and 1995 are as under:—

	1994		1995 (Upto Oct.)	
	Gujarat	Rajasthan	Gujarat	Rajasthan
(i) Bangladeshis	29	2472	13	962
(ii) Pakistanis	10	36	41	19
(iii) Others	24	747	13	406

(d) A statement is annexed *{See* below)

(e) To counter such activities, border fencing/flood lighting work has been completed in 334 Kms. in Ganganagar/ Bikaner sectors of Rajasthan. Work on 387 Kms. in Jaisalmer and Banner sectors is under execution and will be completed by June, 1996. Additional fencing/flood lighting work in 165 Kms. in Shahgarh Bulge of Jaisalmer District has been sanctioned and is scheduled for completion in 1996-97.

As far as Gujarat is concerned, BSF deployment along the 508 Kms. of

International Border with Pakistan has been strengthened. The Water Wing of the BSF has been given additional speed boats and medium crafts so as to achieve dominance in the area;

The other measures taken by the Government to curb ISI/terrorist activities include sensitisation of the concerned agencies, gearing up of intelligence machinery and strengthening of BSF i.e. reducing the distance between BOPs, increasing the number of Patrols/ Nakas, erection of OP Towers, intensification of border patrolling, supply of various equipments like night vision devices, binoculars, twin telescope, hand held search lights, etc. for effective observation during day and night.

Statement

	RAJASTHAN			GUJARAT		
	1992	1993	1994	1992	1993	1994
Contraband (Value) (in Rupees)	4,68,10,753	4,06,55,922	100,54,56,337	22,36,703	5,9623,549	1,34,53,614
Arms (in Numbers)	29	03	17	49	—	—
Ammunition (in Numbers)	4,559	45	1,795	3,165	—	—
Gold-In Kgs.	43.977	41.704	0.046	___	__	
Value in Rs.	2,50,02,000	1,89,51,490	1,9200			
Heroin-in Kgs.	6.000	54.975	100.125	___	—	—
Value in Rs.	18,00,000	1,33,75,000	99,03,00,000			
Charas-in Kgs.	302.000	803.000	251.675	—	__	260.000
Value in Rs.	10,57,000	58,40,010	47,75,850			1.28,00.000
Opium-in Kgs.	___	5.900	1.377	___	—	_____
Value in Rs.		11,800	5,200			
B/Sugar-in Kgs.	—	—	—	___	—	—
Value in Rs.						
Hashish-in Kgs.	—	___	1.30	___	__	—
Value in Rs.			5,000			
A/Anhydride-in Ltrs.	5,580.000	7,997.000	3,370.000	—	—	—
Value in Rs.	55,80,000	79,97,000	91,35.300			

Shortage of Information Officers in Indian Missions

*60. DR. SHRIKANT RAM CHANDRA JICHKAR: SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of Information Officers in Indian Missions abroad; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to make good this situation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir. Press and Information Wings of our Missions/Posts abroad, which play a key role in the projection of India's policies and in countering adverse publicity, are adequately staffed and equipped to fulfil their responsibilities.

(b) Does not arise